



# NOAA FISHERIES

## Sustainable Fisheries

### 2014 Quarter 4 Update through December 31, 2014

**2014 Quarter 4 Score = 748.5** (October 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014)

#### Overview

The Fish Stock Sustainability Index (FSSI) is a performance measure for the sustainability of 199 U.S. fish stocks<sup>1</sup> selected for their importance to commercial and recreational fisheries. The FSSI will increase as stock status becomes known, overfishing is ended, and stocks increase to the level that provides maximum sustainable yield.

#### Overview of FSSI stocks through December 31, 2014

Overfishing Status	Number of Stocks	Overfished Status	Number of Stocks
<b>Known Status</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>Known Status</b>	<b>168</b>
<b>Not Subject to Overfishing</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>Not Overfished (includes 1 stock approaching an overfished condition)</b>	<b>140</b>
<b>Subject to Overfishing</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Overfished</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Unknown Status</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>Unknown Status</b>	<b>31</b>

#### Summary of Changes for FSSI stocks from October 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014

Stock	Jurisdiction	Previous Status	Current Status
Bering Sea / Aleutian Islands Blackspotted and Rougheye Rockfish Complex	NPFMC	$B/B_{MSY} < 80\%$ of target biomass	$B/B_{MSY} > 80\%$ of target biomass
Silver hake - Southern Georges Bank / Mid-Atlantic	NEFMC	$B/B_{MSY} < 80\%$ of target biomass	$B/B_{MSY} > 80\%$ of target biomass

<sup>1</sup> The majority of species are assessed as a single stock; however, there are a few that are assessed as a stock complex, which contain a group of species with similar geographic distribution, co-occurrence in fisheries, and life history.

### Overview of non-FSSI stocks through December 31, 2014

Overfishing Status	Number of Stocks	Overfished Status	Number of Stocks
<b>Known Status</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>Known Status</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Not Subject to Overfishing</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>Not Overfished (includes 1 stock approaching an overfished condition)</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Subject to Overfishing</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Overfished</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Unknown Status</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>Unknown Status</b>	<b>210</b>

### Summary of Changes for non-FSSI stocks from October 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014

Stock	Region	Previous Status	Current Status
Bluefin tuna - Western Atlantic	HMS	Subject to overfishing	Not subject to overfishing

### Southeast Region

- Grouper unit 4 is no longer listed as overfished due to the consolidation of all grouper stocks, except goliath grouper and Nassau grouper. The consolidation was the result of amendments to implemented required Annual Catch Limit (ACL) provisions. The overfished status of the new grouper complex is unknown.

FSSI stock status updates are posted quarterly at:

[http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/fisheries\\_eco/status\\_of\\_fisheries/status\\_updates.html](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/fisheries_eco/status_of_fisheries/status_updates.html)